



I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. Section 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U. S. C. Section 120 of any United States application(s), or Section 365(c) of any PCT International application designating the United States, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. Section 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, C. F. R., Section 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT International filing date of this application:

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Status)

(patented, pending, abandoned)

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Status)

(patented, pending, abandoned)

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Status)

(patented, pending, abandoned)

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

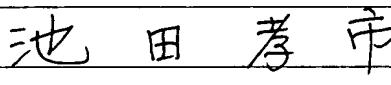
**POWER OF ATTORNEY:** As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. (list name and registration number)

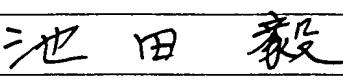
**James H. Walters, Reg. No. 35,731**

**I authorize the attorney that I have appointed to accept instructions regarding this application and the resulting patent from Amagai Patent Firm.**

Send Correspondence to: 802  
**DELLETT AND WALTERS**  
**310 S.W. Fourth Avenue, Suite 110**  
**Portland, Oregon 97204**

Direct Telephone Calls to: (name and telephone number)  
**James H. Walters (503) 224-0115**

Full name of sole or first inventor <b>Kouichi Ikeda</b>
Sole or first inventor's signature  <span style="float: right;">Date NOVEMBER 16, 2000</span>
Residence <b>JAPAN</b>
Citizenship <b>JAPAN</b>
Post Office Address <b>c/o Niigata Seimitsu Co., Ltd., 5-13, Nishishiromachi 2-chome,</b>
<b>Jouetsu-shi, Niigata 943 JAPAN</b>

Full name of second inventor, if any <b>Takeshi Ikeda</b>
Second inventor's signature  <span style="float: right;">Date NOVEMBER 16, 2000</span>
Residence <b>JAPAN</b>
Citizenship <b>JAPAN</b>
Post Office Address <b>c/o Niigata Seimitsu Co., Ltd., 5-13, Nishishiromachi 2-chome,</b>
<b>Jouetsu-shi, Niigata 943 JAPAN</b>

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP99/02564

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
Int.Cl<sup>6</sup> H01L21/301

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

Int.Cl<sup>6</sup> H01L21/301Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched  
Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1920-1999 Toroku Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1994-1999  
Kokai Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1971-1995

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	JP, 49-35586, B1 (NEC Corp.), 24 September, 1974 (24. 09. 74), Claims ; page 1, right column, line 14 to page 2, right column, line 5 ; Figs. 1, 2 (Family: none)	1-10
A	JP, 6-334034, A (Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd.), 2 December, 1994 (02. 12. 94), Claims (Family: none)	1-10
A	JP, 9-199450, A (Oki Electric Industry Co., Ltd.), 31 July, 1997 (31. 07. 97), Claims (Family: none)	1-10

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.  See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	"T"	later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"X"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date	"Y"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"&"	document member of the same patent family
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means		
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		

Date of the actual completion of the international search  
5 August, 1999 (05. 08. 99)Date of mailing of the international search report  
17 August, 1999 (17. 08. 99)Name and mailing address of the ISA/  
Japanese Patent Office

Authorized officer

Facsimile No.

Telephone No.

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP99/02565

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

Int.Cl<sup>6</sup> H01L21/301

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

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Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

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"E"	earlier document but published on or after the international filing date	"X"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"L"	document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"O"	document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&"	document member of the same patent family
"P"	document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		

Date of the actual completion of the international search  
5 August, 1999 (05. 08. 99)Date of mailing of the international search report  
17 August, 1999 (17. 08. 99)Name and mailing address of the ISA/  
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